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TELEPHONE, BEEKMAN 2200.

## "Where Do We Come In?"

It might be unprofitable to inquire how far the imminence of a general election in Great Britain is responsible for the talk in that country about compelling Germany, in the final settlement, to pay not only for damage inflicted in violation of international law but also for the actual cost of the war to the British nation.

The two things are distinct and separable, namely, the total of reparation and the total of expenditure to enforce reparation. About the first item there is, of course, no question of justice or expediency. The second item is a new factor.

Lord Northcliffe's Daily Mail puts the war cost to Great Britain and her dominions at about forty billions of dollars. The Mail adds that the French claim for reparation will be "infinitely larger." If we assume that "infinitely larger" means only twice as much, that would make the penalty or restitution to be exacted of the criminal aggressor one hundred and twenty billions for these two nations. The Matin, however, puts the French claim at sixty-eight

Adding to the score Belgium's just claim of nearly ten billions, and Serbia's and Rumania's unascertained damages, and perhaps some of Russia's, and piling on top of all this the military expenditures of Japan and Portugal and the numerous other Powers associated in the war, the aggregate easily amounts to a hundred and thirty billions; conceivably to two hundred billions when all the bills have been presented.

Now, it is obvious at a glance that the stupendous total would be at least double the entire national wealth of the German Empire as it existed bebe enforced to the limit of present ability to pay there would not be the in the future it could scarcely be worked out by the debtor in a generation. The defeated and penalized nation would have to be treated as a bankrupt and the available proceeds distributed pro rata to the claimant victors.

We are not now discussing the ethical or legal merits of this staggering proposal; we are considering it merely as a fiscal possibility and as a matter of equal treatment of all the Powers concerned.

If there should be such pro rate apportionment of the reimbursement obtainable from Germany, is it likely that Great Britain or France or any other of the leading creditors would allow the United States to stand in solitary disinterestedness as the only Power which paid its own bills for its very considerable share of the military and naval operations which enabled the others to obtain their respective indemnities?

# The Restitution of War Spoils.

The restitution of the spoils taken by the Germans in the height of the success of their armies reveals the thoroughness with which they swept collections of art works by QUENTIN DELATOUR and of paintings by Anwere taken from northern France: the former from St. Quentin, where songsters."

citizens. artist's works.

had taken from the Russian treasury. There was no suggestion, however, was considered one of the richest depositories of Greek, Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities in the world.

The Germans' prizes in Italy were not especially rich; they failed to reach the sents of early Italian and Renaissance art in central and southern Italy. Berlin made a pretentious display of northern Italian art as "spoils of war," but the Italians declared that the collection represented little of great value. But Germany has held for years the "Madonna dl San Sisto," RAPHAEL's most famous painting. Italy insists that Germany has not a good and valid title to this work and that its return to its rightful owner is an act of restitution which Germany should make.

#### The New Little Nations.

We commend to universal attention, both ashore and affoat, one pregnant paragraph in the British Forto the Associated Press.

Speaking of President Wilson's celebrated phrase, "Make the world safe for democracy." Mr. BALFOUR said: "I do not think the world can be made

safe for democracy merely by multiplying the number of democratic States."

Some of the smaller national constructions seem determined, even before the Wilson Fourteen reach the Peace Conference, to prove how well Mr. BALFOUR-can think.

#### Some Contrasts in the Literature of Spiritualism. In the seventy years since mod-

ern spiritualism was ushered, after knocking, into the world in the parlor of the Fox home at Hydesville in Wayne county, no decade-unless that of the '50s has seen the production of as much literature on the subject of spiritland communication as has been published in the last four years. The war has not unexpectedly produced, if not a wealth of spiritistic lore, at least a great mass of mate rial from which both friend and foe may draw conclusions. On the more strictly popular side we have had Sir OLIVER Longe's sensational "Raymond," Sir ABTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S frank confession of faith, and the "novels," in first and sixteenth century styles, of the spirit who signs herself, by the oulfa board, "Patience Worth." One New York publishing house (Dutton) has printed in the last year at least ten works dealing with spiritualism in a friendly or neutral way, and has also published a new edition of spiritualism's great book of evidence, the collection of the cases looked into by the Society for Psychical Research; a work representing many years of investigation on the part of Gunney, Myens and PODMORE, and now edited and abridged (to about 300,000 words) by Mrs. HENRY SIDGWICK, sister of ARTHUR James Balfour and honorary secretary of the society.

The reader who has skimmed the literature of psychism since the days of the Fox sisters has always been fore the war. If the collection could struck by the variety of its character. It has swung from the deepest assets to satisfy the award. If it nity to the extreme of flippancy and were held as a debt to be worked out irrelevancy, the pendulum of course passing through a middle region dis tinguished for the clearness and straightforwardness of the writers' style. The good people of Rochester frowned upon the Fox sisters not so much because they heard rappings as because they were what was called, in a broad way, "blasphemous." No such complaint was made of the writ ings of Judge John Worth Edmonds the first notable American defender of the new belief, whose two volumes of "Spiritualism," written in collaboration with Dr. George T. DEXTER, appeared in 1853. No such complaint was made about the remarkable "Voice of the Patriarchs," which LUTHER R. MARSH, associate of DANIEL WEBSTER and friend of the be thought he was at the moment: New York parks, published in 1889. relating the conversations with Biblical characters which Mr. Massu be lieved he had carried on through the mediumship of CLARISA J. HUYLER. None could be offended by the reve lations, nithough the reader might permit a smile as he came upon such evidence as that of ADAM concerning

the days after the fall: "Gentle, uncomplaining Evn endeavored to appear happy, yet I knew she the occupied territories of their treas- sighed for the Garden and mourned for ures. To France have been sent the the companionship of the mute friends she was wont to pet. . . Ofttimes as she gazed upon the tree tops, her TOINE WATTEAU. These collections eyes humid with unshed tears, I knew she mourned the loss of her feathered

WATTEAU. Not only were the col- spiritualism are interesting. In some lections of great value, but they were books we find only a baid scientific highly prized by each of these cities record of experiment, such as the as memorials to famous native born weighings and measurements set down painstakingly in W. J. CRAW-The Delatour collection consisted of roan's "Reality of Psychic Phenomeighty-seven places and was pre- ena." Then there is the cold, matter this country yesterday a few hours eagerly asked by soldiers as soon as lous effect of thirteen lamps is sufficient sented to St. Quentin by the artist of fact style of "How to Speak With after the newspapers in which were they are within hailing distance of himself. The reason for the removal of the Watteau paintings is perhaps clear. Berlin and Potsdam
hast hours overlanding and Potsdam
hast hours overlandin haps clear. Berlin and Potsdam best hours, environment and equip Japan were put in circulation. This ent. Many of the soldiers have long have the largest collection of this ment for successful communication project contemplated the utilization served in parts of France and Belartist's works, among them being his with the departed. A third type of of every conceivable vehicle for in glum discomfortingly wet at this sealast painting, "Gersaint's Sign," and book is patterned after the product flaming popular passion against the son of the year, have suffered a replica of his celebrated "Embank- itons of "Patience Worth." One fol- Japanese. The printing press, the tensely in wet trenches, wet billets. ment of Cythera," with more figures lower of this originally lucrative busy ment of Cythera," with more figures lower of this originally lucrative bus- motion picture screen and the vaude- give brief weather reports to incomthan in the original at the Louvre. iness of drawing fiction from the Be- ville stage were all to have been em- ing ships so that returning soldiers The Valenciennes paintings would youd got himself taken to court by ployed to create a diversion in the in- could learn whether New York were have given completeness and an un- MARK TWAIN'S publishers. Another terest of Germany, and the American dry or wet. usual artistic interest to the German has pretended to have received post- public was to have been misled by collection of this distinguished French mortem stories from O. HENRY, but artfully prepared riots and serious whether through the oulja board, the crimes in which the villains were to but in Holland unanimous consent The Paris despatch says that the planchette or the ordinary speaking have been subjects of the Mikado.

such endings as this:

"In a voice sweeter than any music he said: Hell becomes heaven when there is harmony !"

"Is it not so, Brothers?"

Much more readable, plausible and at the same time a thousand times more sensational is the kind of spir-Mrs. F. Homes Custiss. They were him fully to comprehend. not in a dark room at midnight, but in a rapidly moving automobile in daylight, travelling between Philadelphia and New York, when a young man in full aviation costume "presente 1 himself to the inner vision of Mrs. Cuariss." This happened on his death had been officially corroborated." Dr. Cunties asked questions of the young aviator (Y. A.) through the mediumship of Mrs. Cun-TISS:

"Dr. C .- You are now in what many people would call heaven."

"Y. A. (quickly)-'Heaven nothing And I know I'm not in the other place! "Dr. C .- 'Of course you are not dead but you have left your physical body." "Y. A .- 'Oh, no. I have just had a wonderful adventure, that's all. I've discovered a country that's not on the map, and I mean to spend some time here and study it. Then, when I've got the facts, I'll come back and tell the

"Dr. C. (letting the point pass) Tell us how you got there."

"Y. A .- Well, I was flying, and we got into a bit of a row with the Boches, and I felt a sting in my head and my machine began to fall.'

"Dr. C .- What did you do then?" "Y. A .- Why, I jumped out. I alvaya felt I could fly myself. Only instead of falling down I flew up here."

Dr. Curriss suggested to the young winter that, while he was not dead. he had put off his body of flesh, but the spirit rejected this in language which Judge EDMONDS and Mr. MARSH never would have countenanced:

"Y. A .- 'Atta-boy! Stop trying to kid me! I never was a good one to kid. I've got my body just as substan tial as ever. I've got on my aviator's uniform, and I fill it out all round. You couldn't put a uniform on a ghost. could you?"

"Dr. C .- Well, if you will read ou book on the subject along with your father you will find it all explained." "Y. A .- Well, when you make your

point I'll admit it. But you've got to prove it. "Dr. C .- What do you eat up there? "Y. A .- 'Come to think of it, I haven't

eaten since I've been here. But ther often go without eating for quite while and don't mind it. Now you men tion it I do feel hungry. Guess I'll go and get some chow right now."

"Y. A. (after a lapse of a few minutes reopens the conversation) - Well. here I am again, and I've proved it.

"Dr. C .- 'Proved what?" "Y. A .- Why, that I'm not dead. I've not only had a swell-meal, but I've met up with an old chum who is in the service, and we both had a fine chow Now, where is a ghost going to put a big meal like that? Does a ghost have a stomach? Ha! Ha! And my chum is just as alive as I am. I pinched him to see, and he hollered Ouch! What do

you say to that?" The young aviator confided to Dr. Curriss that he had "found a new way to escape being wrecked, and as soon as I study it I'm coming back Mr. McApoo's job, which is to say in the protection of this Government. and tell the boys how to do it, so they can fly without their machines too, and so save millions in equipment." Dr. Curtiss asked him where

me. You belong in this country.'

"Dr. C .- 'No, you are mistaken. Physically we are in our auto travelling toward New York at twenty-five miles an hour."

"Y. A.-Well, I'll have to be going if you don't stop trying to kid me."

It may shock some to be told that the rather filppant vernacular of ter back home. earth endures beyond the grave. At the same time this report of the refor more natural than the pretended DELATOUR was born, and the latter | The contrasts in style and charac- just as there are those who doubt that window, across seventy feet of space, Michigan trippers. Flint forever! high shove the ground.

# Prince Higashi Fushimi's Visit.

300,000,000 francs in gold which they who signs herself "Parma." It is into execution may remain a mystery. true that O. HENRY would not have All we can be sure of is that the conbeen a difficult mark for a clever epirators who got it up failed of their of the restitution of any of the arti- person who had studied his style, and purpose. Relations between America cles taken from the Hermitage Mu- particularly his "cracker" endings; a and Japan not only remained unimseum at Petrograd. The Hermitage good faker could supply a certain paired, but actually improved, until had repulsed the hordes of Kan-moverisimilitude of surprise. This they reached a point at which the dis-"Parma" did not attempt, and we closures of the Zimmernann design have from her putative familiar spirit for an alliance between Germany, Mexico and Japan to dismember the United States aroused derision and laughter instead of misgivings and fear. Whatever fraction of the German propaganda fund was put into the exploitation of anti-Japanese feel-

ing here was wasted. Prince Higashi Fushimi's present itualistic literature that we find oc- a time when the promise of continued casionally in Azoth, an American good feeling between his country and magazine of the occult. One of its the United States is peculiarly fair, a liveliest recent articles is "An Avia- fact his familiarity with the nation tor's Great Adventure," by Dr. and which now welcomes him will enable

#### Burleson, Too, Must Spend.

job Postmaster-General Burtleson, of Texas, knocked the mall service of New York city into a cocked hat. He eign Secretary's statement on Friday July 19, 1918, a few days after the scrambled the schedules. He disoraviato had been killed and "before ganized, demoralized and dismantled the working force. He cut out the tube system. He restored the old fashioned, out of date, inefficient wagon service for hauling mail sacks who has made, without leaving China, miles and miles through congested a life study of the people of the Ozark traffic when, under the system discarded by him, they could be shot swiftly and out of sight from one point to another. He blocked the streets around the post offices. He man in the pink derby is Wow Wow, choked up the post offices themselves. He made a joke out of the whole postal service.

> Now Postmuster-General Burleson Ohio. wants to build another subway. He wants to put a million and a half of are going to a continent where the dollars into an underground connection between the Grand Central and the Pennsylvania terminals, with a on themselves. So you are from New downtown link to the old post office. York? I suppose you spend many a The old mall tubes, seventy miles of week end in Montana, hunting anathem, are still under the streets. They condas, eh?" were working until Burneson shut them down. No doubt they could work again. Presumably, if they needed improvement or enlargement the changes could be achieved at a relatively small cost. But the thing publication of Mr. Martin Conboy's refor Burneson to do when he has to ply to my letter of December 4 regardcorrect his blunder is to build some new underground mail channels. Spend money-spend a million and a half! What is a million and a half when the war spenders have been examined until after August 6, 1918; tossing around billions the way farm I put it as September 15. No questio hands pitch hay?

"To hell with the taxpayers!"

# Our Dramatic Censor.

Though America has been spared an official dramatic censor, the duties that would come to that office appear to have fallen, through happy chance, dozen years ago circumstance put upon him the delicate task of deciding whether Mrs. Warren, she of the prothe local boards; and now the Chief Magistrate is expected to pass judg. direction of the Government, even though pulling down." ment upon charges made by the police against one of Mr. Knoslock's dramas; charges which are rythmically condensed in an ex parte statehis Blake:

"Tiger! Tiger! burning bright At Belasco's every night,

Your cook's immoral; McApoc Will send you packing to the Zoo!"

Tiger of physical attraction, the vase teered. of the Dark Flower. Whether old ferred classification were required to BILL BLAKE ever thought of his stay at home. own Tiger as such a symbol is somewhether "Tiger! Tiger!" is "obscene, indecent and impure," or any one of 'em. harder than that of the dramatist who interprets the poet. But, after his experience with the wicked easy for Mr. McApoo.

Poets must hang their harps on a willow tree evermore to weep, not to sing, if there is not promptly produced poem inspired by the wounding of a Yankee soldier who went over the top into No Man's Land where he had seen a single pansy which he wanted -and got-to send to his baby daugh-

Build more and double track railroads marks of the young aviator sounds to Flint, Mich.; let cloud piercing hotels and apartment houses line its avenues to accommodate the mighty rush stories of O. Henry. Whether it is of rejoicing multitules to that city of more natural than ADAM's talk upon excellent renown! Five hundred of Eve's grief none can say. There will its business men have volunteered be those who will doubt that any of substantially to reduce prices of necthe conversations crossed the Border, essaries of life. Let Detroit look to her eminence in population, the Soo from Valenciennes, the birthplace of ter found in recent publications on D. D. Home walked from window to St. Joseph to her celebrity with Lake to her riches garnered from tourists, this subject?

Committees in charge of receptions of returning troops seem to have overlooked a detail which, attended to. Yet the Hoboken tube continues to omit By an interesting coincidence would be a source of comfort to troop-Prince Higashi Fushimi arrived in ship passengers. The first question tinued during the war. The dim relig-

In America there was opposition Germans delivered over to the Allies medium is not stated by the person To what extent this plot was put Hohenmollen's departure. seems to have been given to Mr. TAKING WISDOM ALONG.

The great war of 2214 was over. The people of the Pacific coast, with the assistance of the Aleutian Islanders and other sympathetic nations, neb-lows, which had tried to compel very person on the western continent to read nothing but William Allen White's novels, to eat nothing but Kansas City beef and Kansas corn, and to think nothing but canned

Not the least of the rescued people's gratitude was directed toward the Republic of China, which toward-the end of the war had sent 40,000,000 troops, armed with 90 centimeter firecrackors. to swing the tide of battle against visit to the United States is made at Middle West culture. Now the terms of peace were to be decided; it was the consensus of world opinion that the people of Kan-mo-neb-lowa must stop thinking, must be dementalized. That, however, is unimportant.

All was astir about the hangars at Hongkong, President Chow Ming being about to take aerial flight for the reat conference in the Grand Canyon to us: "The war is over; forget it." of the Colorado, which had been com-

party was about him.
"Who are they all?" inquired a stupld correspondent from New York, a city once familiar to everybody until Topeka overshadowed it. He indicated the group of wise looking men near

"how Ming. "Those," explained Gee Cee, the publicist of the expedition, "are the experts. There is Professor Wing Wong, Mountains, Yonder is Dr. Fooev Floory, author of 'Abnormal Men of East St. Louis.' There is Chong Gong, our exchange lecturer at Lhasa on oratory along the Platte River. The professor of Extinct Indiana Literature at the University of Mongolia. The little man is Ping Ting, author of The Social Problems of Sandusky,

"You see," continued Gee Cee. people are grossly ignorant of their own history, economics and ambitions, and we must give them the right dope

# OPENED QUESTIONNAIRES. Mr. Judge Insists That the Regis-

trant's Rights Were Invaded. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your is fair and proper, especially as Mr. Conboy's statements give mine an added the questionnaires could not be legally naires were filed between those dates. therefore none could have been examined except those previously filed.

and that would be illegal. Mr. Conboy was director of the draft and a most vigorous and efficient director, but his viewpoint is not that of the male citizen who was obliged to fill out his questionnaire.

Mr. Conboy is not fair or right to to the Hon. William McADOO. About the registrants in his facts in stating that the dependency series was filled out by registrants claiming deferred classification so they might remain at fession, was a fit character to trend obliged to, and did, answer all the ques- be done in they waived classification and consented to enter the service of their Many registrants with dependents did answer those questions and did waive their right to deferred classification, and ment by a Sun contributor who knows had their wives or relatives also waive their right to insist on deferred classification of the registrant. This Mr. onboy must have known, as we had also that each dependent had the right Fine points are involved, items far trant in the proper classification, if the more delicate than the heroine's board thought the registrant should may praiseworthy attempt to conceal her at home and take care of his dependcooking of cabbage by the use of ents. Mr. Conboy should know that patchoull. This Tiger is not the fu- those who filled in their questionnaires millar one that used to be pictured as and on the field of battle with the same about to cross the Bridge, but the consideration as the men who volun-

I still maintain that my facts were correctly stated and that all registrants thing for analysts to quarrel over. did offer their services and their lives

Mr. Conboy was a part of the outfit to enforce the draft, and cannot put himself in the position of the registrant in feeling that the questionnaire was part destined to be used by the Government for any purposes other than the "Y. A .- Why, you are up here with Mr. SHAW's play, this job should be draft, and that one purpose was to aid the Internal Revenue office in collecting nore revenue. NEW YORK, December 7.

### HATEFUL CARNIVORE! Man's Supreme Sacrifice to Attain Civilization.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. No. matter what radical changes may take result of the war, and nothing is going to remain the same, a pseudo-civiliza- of finding out just what the future citition only will continue to exist so long zens desire to be and endeavoring to as man remains a carnivorous animal. The slaying and devouring of other mimals, to which man has been so long accustomed, is too brutal and too de- in at the place where I was. grading to be consistent with our grandiose ideas of ourselves and our mortality. What say your readers on of the United States; others wanted to Naw York, December 7.

Still Twilight in the Tubes. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The war is over, Broadway a blaze of light. the eighteen lamps that were disconto keep one from stumbling, but ruination

M. G. D.

MINNA INVING

Her Chance. She's forty, neither fair nor fat, 'Tis not her fault she is not wed; The rascal with the bended ho Has passed her with averted head

EAST ORANGE, N. J., December 7.

The mistletoe to her, alas! Is but a mockery and myth, o Christmas comes and Christmas goes And finds her ettil Lucinda Smyth the has a nephew o'er the sea

A captive but unmarried German."

A gailent soldier young and brave-Br nr me," she wrote, "a Christmas gift When you return across the wave. Not laces, furs or precious pearls From haunts of mermald and of merms ut for my very own, dear Fred,

AREN'T THEY AMERICANS?

These Citizens of Teutonic Blood Wear No Hyphens.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: When peace finally comes, what shall we do to Americanize that portion of our citizenry once styled "German Americans" who are now perhaps American Germans, but not yet just plain Americans? I mean those peaceful, honest, industrious, cleanly, orderly, thrifty people of German nativity or parentage who have bought Liberty bonds of each issue; contributed to the Red Cross and other war funds; served personally in war work activities; paid their war taxes promptly and with little complaint; and, in many instances, given their sons to the army and nav

In deaths uncounted, and the blood out I mean those who in spite of these loyal acts and sacrifices continue to hold n strong feeling of reverence and So lavishly. For see! the truth ye admiration for all things German; to sympathize with Germany as the under dog that has had enough and should be let alone.

I mean those who are anxious to say When he got settled down to his pletely carpeted for the occasion. His like Americans as far as they could mean those who have talked and acted but have not thought American in their minds nor felt American in their hearts. What shall we do to make real Ame: icans of these people so that they may

know American history; respect Ameri can institutions; honor statesmen and heroes of the past and understand American prinpresent: ciples and ideals, and in the course of time learn to know the thrill that comes only to those who love Old Glory because of what it means to mankind? FRANK E. CORNELL.

BROOKLYN, December 7. A WARNING FROM LINCOLN.

## lowering Genius Must Be Closely Watched.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The reading of your editorial article upon he method proposed to evade the consti tutional requirements concerning the passage of laws by Congress, their transmission to the President and the time allowed for their approval or veto by him, caused my mind to revert to an address of Abraham Lincoln before the Young Men's Lyceum of Springfield. January 27, 1837, the subject being The Perpetuation of Our Political Institutions." In view of what you say, reflaction upon portions of it seems oportune. I venture to quote the follow

mg: Towering genius disdains a beaten path. It seeks regions hitherto un-explored. It sees no distinction in adding story to story upon the monuments of fame erected to the memory of others ng examinations of the questionnaires It denies that it is long enough to serve under any chief. It scorns to tread in he footsteps of any predecessor however weight, as he shows conclusively that illustrious. It thirsts and burns for dis inction, and if possible it will have it. shether at the expense of emancipating slaves or enslaving free men. Is it unreaonable, then, to expect that some mer ossessed of the loftlest gentus, coupled with ambition sufficient to put it to its tmost stretch, will at some time spring up among us? And when such a one loes it will require the people to be united with each other, attached to the Government and laws, and generally intelligent to successfully frustrate his de

sign. "Distinction will be his paramour object, and although he would as willingly, perhaps more so, acquire it by doing good as harm, yet that oppo home. Every one of the registrants was tunity being passed and nothing left to the way of building up, he tions in the dependency series by the would sit down boldly to the task of A CITIERN PATERSON, N. J., Docember 7.

## THE PROCESSES OF DEATH. Application of a Presidential Principle

to the Transportation System. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I: ems to me that one of the very many such cases. He must have known against Federal usurpation of the nation's railroads and telegraph lines is to a hearing, and the local board was that argument boldly set forth by President Woodrow Wilson, which THE Sun enumerates under the heading "Another Set of Fourteen Points or Principles Formulated by President Wilson," in its issue of November 29, wherein the

President writes:
"When we resist, therefore—when as a Democrat resist-the concentration of power, I am resisting the processes of death, because concentraion of power is what always precedes

the destruction of human initiative and herefore of human energy." Let the opponents of federalization and municipalization of our public DAVID GOODE utilities take notice.

NEWARK, N. J., December 7.

haps THE SUN or one of its readers can enlighten me as to the reason for the following question, which appeared on the "questionnaire" which the 16 to 18 year olders were required to answer when registering on Tuesday, December as provided by the military law of the State: "What do you intend to be ten years from now?"

Can it be that some one is trying to lace in the moral nature of man as a determine the wit of the American youth, or is it asked with the intention qualify them for those positions? As far as I could garner, there was not a sensible answer among the stack handed

orinciples for which they are striving programme of individual im- One young fellow wants to be President be millionaires, bank presidents, oil kings, &c.; still others who had intentions of doing deep thinking signified particularly enthusiastic lad said he intended to be dead ten years hence.

Do you think either of my contention right, or am I still in the dark? NEW YORK, December 7. M. C. E.

#### Presiding Officer for an Ideal Dinner Party.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The old line American dinner party, made up of King Albert, Cardinal Mereter, Here I awaken at the hunteman's horn Marshal Foch, Premier Clemenceau, Mr. Lloyd George and President Wilson, is painfully incomplete. To avoid stiff formality and to make

this party a brilliant success, with the And here, when twilight skies brood low true American spirit properly repre-sented. I should place at the head of Sometimes I hear a wandering piper play this notable table Theodore Roosevelt. A SUBSCRIBER.

SOUTH STRATFORD, Vt., December 7. Or Castro, Sulzer and Felix Diaz.

ELIZABUTH, N. J., December 7.

POEMS WORTH READING.

tithe

bells

fleeh

due

mocked.

wounds.

washed free

"Blighty. "Blighty," they call it, in their fond, blunt slang, And tell their love for England with a

These British lads who shirked no bitter Seven Big Organizations Warn Of war's grim task, then set a cap and

On their nostalgia, lest their tears be Is Perilous. when hell's blasts had rent the

passport back to "Blighty" were their And all the angulah only "Blighty's The tribute is not vain that these have

Into Execution. the And England is absolved at such a cost. Rejoiced, she sees the blight of caste

The blight of lust and drunkenness con-The blight of want and misery abhorred With such grim loathing as shall seal its doom. precious blood that wrought

The blight of selfishness bared to men's

That only sacrifice can cleanse

a gain! fot one bright drop shall full its price win for And robes unblemished of the old darl

Until by truth and grace she gain from Allegiance nobler than an empire's sway And crown her wondrous history with love-

Breat England of the vesture without blight!

#### Kamerad. 'Kamerad'" They lift their conquered

hands and cry, re us! We be of one blood, Thou and Hearken the jungle password, known of all

would call And spare us in long journeying lest we

Kamerad! We be of one blood, Thou and Kamerad? Are they our brothren then Born of the same blood other

These Titans, remnants of a race long past, That earth might be fit place for living Out of the Sun have they come

bleed-

egain. On that long spiral journey of the soul Gigantic, strong and lawless from their Freed from old chains that they may

To make earth like their place within the Scarce human they, but graded from the beast\*

But one step upward! Lowest of the

Full of strange evil-devils in their gread-Have they the same blood other nations bleed ? O Judge of Life! Supreme, Eternal One Cast Thou these Teutone Back into their Their lake of fire and sulphur and brim-

The Melting Pot all living things have purged from Sin, their evil soul Made clean and fit for earth's humanity! The Hard Case of a Modernist Poet,

From Poetry: A Magazine of Verse. as born in Ireland. was born in Ireland.
I we been in every country of the world,
I am an American citizen seventeen yea
I'm only thirty-nine years old:
And yet, in spite of all that,
The army won't enlist me as a soldier
For the great war.

I've been a sailor over twelve years, And can tell about the building of ships. Ever since the first one was made of the hollow of a tree. And still they won't take me in— This war is hard on me.

can feach how to cut a dugout cance,
Or stretch one of skins;
I've sailed in a reed raft off Australia.
And in the surf boats of Madras;
I can help to build ships.
And explain how the keel of a vessel
is only the old log minus the dugout.
Ask me why the fo'castle of old Egyptian

was shaped up into a necklike thing.
And finished off into the figure of a bird,
or a beast? on tell all that,
and yet they won't enlist me.

oars.
Sail, steam and oil:
And there's not a spilos, eye spilos, chain Or rigging shroud that I don't know.
I've a union card, too,
And yet I can't make a hit.

THEIR IDEALS.

Some Schoolboys Would Be Bartenders,
Others President or Millionaires.

To the Editor of The Sun—Sir. Perhaps The Sun or one of its readers can enlighten me as to the reason for the following question, which appeared on the "questionnaire" which the 16 to 18.

They take these young fellows—
Why can't I enitst tee?
I can do more, and I knew more,
And I can stand more and fight more
In a day than any of them.

Tom Shellyr.

From the Rudder. At the call of nations, helpless, suffering, and—
fours be the loy of Christmas Peacs,
Yours be the glory of united hearts and
be you glad.

reat hearis that offered, and were called To give your all of strength, of happiness, of you n-ours be the glow of Christmas Righteous-Yours be the gift of all the world's re-spect-know you the truth.

reat hearts that rose, and gave, and lost, For you in humble honor, glorified—
For you in humble honor, glorified—
the Peace that passeth understanding
glows,
Shedding for you a Christmas radiance
above the graves—of those who died,
ELEANOR M. ALDRIFOE.

The Open Door. Why should I house in grim Reality When I need only close my eyes to be Within another world—who knows how far

Here becken all the olden tales I love With all the wonder and the thrill thereof; Here tarry still the ancient mysteries Of treasure laden land beyond the sens

Stirring the echoes of the early And strain to see the plumed horsemen Adown the dim demeans of gay romance.

A lost Arcadian melody, so sweet None other dare its cadences repeat,

There is no weariness nor solitude, may have, companioning ear

PUSH PORT PLAN, **BUSINESS DEMANDS** 

Estimate Board Delay

BACK HULBERT SCHEM

Ask Commissioner Be Authorized at Once to Put It

Necessity for immediate action as Dock Commissioner Hulbert's plans for the development of port facilities was urged upon the Board of Estimata yesterday by seven business organics tions, including the Chamber of Co. merce of the State of New York.

In consonance with the general scheme for port development Allred t Marling, president of the Chamber of Commerce, sent letters yesterday of United States Senator Calder and Reresentative William E. Cleary of the Committee on Rivers and Harley reging them to do what they could expedite legislation that would prove for the removal of Shell Reef, in the

East River, for its entire distance. The communication to the Board of Estimate indorsing Dack Commisstoner Hulbert's plans for port development and urging immediate action s signed by officials representing the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, the Merchants Association the Board of Trade and Transports tion, the Produce Exchange, the Man time Association of New York, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and

## the Central Mercantile Association. Want No Further Obstruction

It reads in part: "We desire to urge upon you the peediest possible provision for improvement and increased wharfage incilities to meet the pressing needs of the commerce flowing through this port and which should normally conlinue to do so.

"There has been a very strong effort in Congress and in other quarters o divert commerce from New York to other ports, and it has been essful to a considerable extent "The principal argument advanced

n support of this hostile attitude to New York has been the constantly to terated assertion that all the terminal facilities of this port have been overtaxed, resulting in great congestion and delays.

"Naturally those interested in the development of other cities and ports have seized upon these statements to endeavor to have commerce diverted to hem and to obtain Federal money for creating facilities with which to handle it; which in some cases they have been successful in doing, and commerce once diverted is extremely diffi-

# Hulbert Alive to Danger.

"The only basis for this allocation gainst the port of New Yor that xists has been the lack of piers and berthing space for vessels so as t ermit free and rapid flow of products nd commodities through the term-

"Dock Commissioner Hulbert is fully alive not only to the pressing need sut to the threatened dangers and desires to avert the latter by providing or the former. In the main gramme as presented refers chiefly to the modernizing and improvement of existing facilities and city property to make it capable of handling a larger traffic and at the same time be mon

productive to the city. "We are of the opinion that the Board of Estimate should provide for this work without further delay and earnestly urge that authority be given to the Dock Commissioner for their construction.

# ARMY MAY HAVE 18 IN. GUNS. I can talk about paddle propulsion, galley | Watervillet Arsenal Now Equipped

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7. - The army arsenal at Watervliet, N. Y., is now equipped to manufacture guns up to 18 inch calibre, Major-Gen. C. C. Williams, Chief of Ordnance, writes in his annual report sent to-day to the Sec-

retary of War. During the fiscal year contracts were let for material valued at five bill 58 of dollars, four thousand manufaturers participating. Funds expended by development of manufacturing facilities totalled \$420,000,000. Those clude the erection of four a limit plants which will render this country independent of the Chilean warp Production from one soon will such 22,000 tons a year

## And Cheaper Products Would Mea Wider Markets for Labor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-

certainly deserve thanks from thinking men for your leading of article in to-day a Sew not stated anything new, but that your regarding the production of week the future. The criticism of size, at plies to all other products that what into new construction and the to ties of life. It is about time to so-called great men cease the about prices of material and in taining their present high levels and that they will do all in their power " keep the prices of labor at the 1709 ent standard. No one believes From care and task, and all dull things can be done, nor do the agitators that are? can be called that believe it A frank statement to manufalabor calling attention to t

reduction in prices all slong not injure either the one a Unless both manufacturer and willing to take a substantiaat once there is no one that line or would want to outline sults to follow If our manufacturers

substantial reductions, if our ons would agree to reduct for their labor, if the produ could be compelled to use then and only then could we. me new work started and have try pros. er on a substant.

To the Epiron of The Sun-Sir. What has become of Aguinaldo, Dr. Cook and W. Shade as more real than any burdens seem. Shout is suffered by the open door of the court is suffered by the press.

Dream. PRESTOR NEW NER, December 5.

CHARLOTTE BECKER.